

Over **half** of **all** women
experience
domestic violence and/or
sexual assault.

Deaf women are affected
at the same rate

too.

abused Deaf women's advocacy services





Advocacy Program

ADWAS' advocates support people who are victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault that need help. Services are free of charge and available to people who are Deaf or Deaf-Blind.

Advocates:

- Offer information and options
- Help you develop your safety plan
- Help you learn about victim's rights, and the rights of Deaf and Deaf-Blind people to have interpreters and fair access to all systems
- Help you decide what services are right for you and your family
- Help you gain access to lawyers, CPS, hospitals, counselors, and housing systems
- Connect you with the ADWAS therapist
- Provide legal advocacy

Caring, compassionate and trained volunteer advocates provide 24-hour domestic violence and sexual assault crisis support over the phone, instant messenger, e-mail, and in person for Deaf victims of abuse within King County.

To reach the local crisis line, call the number below and leave your name and a safe way of contacting you on the answering machine (a safe e-mail address, instant messenger screen name, or number). An advocate will return your call using your preferred method of contact.

1-888-236-1355 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Positive Parenting Program

The Positive Deaf Parenting Program offers parenting education and support to all members of the Deaf community. A variety of classes and workshops are available throughout the year.

We offer:

Classes/workshops:

- "Positive Discipline" (for parents with children ages 5 and above)
- "Parenting Through Play" (for parents with children ages birth to three years old)
- "Parenting Teenagers"
- "Talking to Your Kids About Drugs and Alcohol"
- "Building Bridges"

A parenting support group

Special events for families throughout the year

All classes and workshops are free of charge and include light snacks, structured activities for children, and materials.





Transitional Housing Program

ADWAS provides transitional housing apartments for women and their children escaping violence. There are 19-units with support programs located in the same building. Women and their children may stay for up to 2 years (but it is not required).

Housing amenities:

- 1, 2, or 3 bedrooms that are fully furnished
- Full kitchen and living room space
- Spacious bathroom
- Common area in the building for gatherings
- Washers and dryers on-site
- Neighborhood park
- An elementary school close by
- Structured activities for children living in the building

Residents are able to use all of the ADWAS services and programs listed in this brochure. In addition, independent living skills training and children's program services are available to residents in the transitional housing program.





Deaf and Deaf-Blind people
constitute a distinct cultural minority.

Their primary language,
American Sign Language (ASL),
is not English.





Children's Program

The Children's Program provides the following services to children whose lives have been affected by domestic violence or sexual assault:

- Therapy
 - Support groups
 - Advocacy
 - Structured educational and recreational activities
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Counseling Program

The Counseling Program offers victims of domestic violence or sexual assault the following services:

- Short-term crisis counseling
- On-going individual/family therapy related to domestic violence and sexual assault
- Group counseling related to childhood sexual assault and domestic violence
- Psychosocial assessments and evaluation of sexual abuse of children
- Client advocacy and referrals

Systems Change Advocacy

ADWAS' goal is to communicate to Deaf and Deaf-Blind women and their children that they can take control of their lives. Women have choices and the information and assistance they need for empowerment (and in some cases, survival) is available to them.

To achieve this goal, it is necessary to improve the accessibility of the medical and legal systems, which are traditionally geared toward hearing, English speaking people. The services available in the community to hearing people must also be available to Deaf and Deaf-Blind people. The barriers of attitude, language and cultural differences must be overcome so those in need can heal and not endure additional oppression.





National Domestic Violence Deaf Hotline

The National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH) is available to Deaf and Deaf-Blind people across the nation. The hotline is 24 hours, 7 days a week. ADWAS operates the National Hotline for Deaf callers from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, (Pacific Time) Monday-Friday. At all other times, the national hotline is answered by staff at the NDVH headquarters in Texas.

The Deaf Hotline program offers:

- Referrals to Deaf agencies/services across the nation
- Knowledge of issues related to communication and cultural barriers in shelters, hospitals, and other services victims may need to access
- Access to Deaf advocates through videophone, instant messenger and e-mail

What reasons do people call the Hotline?

- Victims are in an immediate crisis situation
- Families or friends of victims have questions
- Request for information and referral
- Need assistance with reducing barriers to services
- Looking for a safe place to go
- Need help developing a plan of action
- To flee from an abusive home
- Need assistance for court advocacy
- Just simply to talk

If you have a family member or friend who needs help, refer them to the Deaf Hotline. If you need help, please contact us in any of the following ways:

VP: (206) 787-3224 (*Videophone users only*)

IM: ADWASHotline

E-mail: adwas@ndvh.org

Education and Consultation Services

ADWAS provides a vast array of education and consultation services. All trainings and workshops are specifically designed to meet the needs of each group, school or agency. Developed by ADWAS, Deaf appropriate material is used during training. Deaf staff provide all training in American Sign Language. Voice interpreters for hearing agencies/individuals are provided as needed.

Training Opportunities Available:

K-12 Education

- Information and prevention
 - Sexual assault
 - Date rape
 - Dating violence

Deaf Community Education

- Building community support for victims of sexual assault and/or domestic violence
- Issues of oppression and how they relate to sexual assault and domestic violence
- Positive Parenting training

Those who benefit from Education and Consultation

- Teachers
- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors
- Therapists
- Deaf Agencies
- Hearing Shelters
- Rape Centers
- Criminal Justice System
- Medical Facilities
- Deaf and Deaf-Blind Communities
- Interpreters

Education for Hearing Agencies

- Understanding issues of Deaf culture and language

Professional Development

- Providers working with Deaf people on issues of sexual assault and domestic violence
- Interpreter training on appropriate signs in criminal justice proceedings and in medical settings
- Individual consultations



Contact ADWAS to
schedule consultation
and/or training.
adwas@adwas.org



We will help you whether the police are involved or not, whether you want to leave the abuser or not. We will work with you for as long as you want.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Advocate Program

- Help answer the 24-hour crisis line

Client Services

- Transport support group participants
- Provide on-site children's activities for support group participants

Fundraising

- Assist with special events
- Data entry
- Help with mailings to donors

Office Volunteer

- Assist with general mailings
- File
- Copy documents
- Work with the database

Specific Skills Volunteer

- Graphic Design
- Computers
- Public Relations
- Photography

If you would like to volunteer or if you have further questions, please contact the ADWAS donor development office by phone (206) 726-1346 Voice, (206) 726-0093 TTY, or email adwas@adwas.org.

Donations

ADWAS is a non-profit organization with tax-exempt status. We are funded through government contracts and private sources. ADWAS is a member of the Women's Funding Alliance. If you would like to make a donation to help someone who needs our services, either mail a check to ADWAS or make a donation through our website at www.adwas.org. Any amount will be appreciated and all donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Yes! I would like to support ADWAS and the work they do. I have enclosed my contribution of:

\$2,500 \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$ Other

Please make checks payable to: ADWAS, 8623 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115.



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8623 Roosevelt Way NE Seattle, WA 98115

General Information

Office (206) 726-0093 TTY

Fax (206) 726-0017

E-mail adwas@adwas.org

Website www.adwas.org

Local Crisis Line

24-hour message pager 1-888-236-1355 TTY

National Hotline

VP 69.17.111.201

IM ADWASHotline

E-mail adwas@ndvh.org